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Friday, October 15, 2004

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community



Free movie

There is a pre-release screening of a Vietnam documentary titled "In the Shadow of the Blade" at 7 p.m. Saturday in Alexander Hall

The documentary chronicles the story of the UH-1 "Huey" helicopter. Part of the filming was shot on Fort Gordon.

The screening is free and open to the public.

PTA meets

The Freedom Park Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association meets at 6 p.m. Monday in the school gym.

For information, call Jennifer Rosser at 798-

Quarterly awards

The quarterly installation awards ceremony will be held at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 21 in the lobby of Conrad

The ceremony will honor outstanding Soldiers and servicemember, NCO, instructor and civilian of the fourth quarter

Everyone is encouraged to attend. For information. contact Linda Means at 791-1871.

Retirement ceremony

A retirement retreat ceremony for Brig. Gen. Gregory Premo, deputy commanding general, will be held at 4:30 p.m. Friday at the Signal Towers flagpole.

Fall cleanup

Fort Gordon's fall cleanup is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 5 for housing areas. All housing occupants are expected to participate; more information is available from area coordinators.

Cleanup for unit, billeting, departmental, training and common areas is Nov. 15-**19**. More information is available in Garrison Tasking Letter 04-289.

For information, call Sgt. Maj. Steven Goulet at 791-6483 or 840-4963.



CFC continues

The 2004 Combined Federal Campaign is underway.

As of Wednesday, 1,055 contributors have donated \$92,800.04. The goal for 2004 is \$360,000.

The campaign has been extended to Nov. 8 due to the late arrival of campaign materials.



Gen. Dan McNeill, Forces Command, awarded Purple Hearts to Spcs. Billy Icard (pictured) and Duey Holloway Oct. 6 at Eisenhower

Hospital Soldiers receive Purple Heart

Jennifer Chipman EAMC public affairs office

Army Medical Center.

When the Forces Command commander visited Augusta Oct. 6, he had two goals.

One was to address the Southeast Regional Medical Command's Commanders Conference; the second to award Purple Hearts to two Soldiers currently assigned to Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

In a packed auditorium Gen. Dan McNeill awarded Spcs. Duey Holloway and Billy Icard the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Holloway, a native of Davie, Fla., had taken cover in a tree line after receiving enemy fire in Ramadi, Iraq. A mortar struck about 15 feet from him Jan. 17. Holloway was assigned to the 1st of the 124th Infantry, Florida Army National Guard.

On May 7, Icard had exited his vehicle to provide convoy security at a refueling station when an improvised explosive device detonated. He is a native of Hickory, N.C., and was assigned to the 1450th Transportation Co. out of Lenoir, N.C.

Free hockey tickets

Augusta Lynx hockey team make 500 tickets available to Soldiers for each home game

Denise Allen

Signal staff

The Augusta Lynx and its sponsors want to "Support the Fort" during its 2004-2005 season by providing free tickets to active duty military and their

"Our sponsors have really jumped all over it," said Tom Callahan, director of broadcasting and public relations for the Augusta Lynx.

The Lynx decided to "Support the Fort" for each of its 23 home Friday and Saturday games during the season

because of the response received to a similar one-time event in March.

Callahan said the Lynx offered 500 free tickets to one of the final season games last year.

"In under an hour, we had 950 requests," he said. The additional tickets

were provided to the Soldiers and their families. "It was awesome," he

it's going to be this successful - obviously the Soldiers responded. It was a tremendous response." For each of the home games, 500 tickets will be available except for the

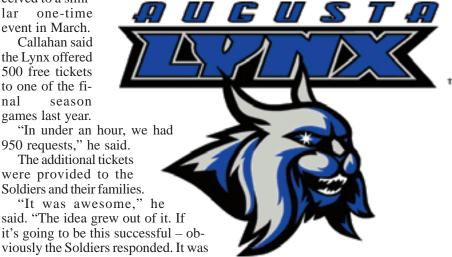
season opener Oct. 22. Col. Karen Adams, garrison commander, will be dropping the first puck for that game, and 1,000 Soldiers and families are invited to the game.

Callahan said the Lynx and its sponsors feel that an event such as "Support the Fort" is a way for them to give back to Fort Gordon.

Some of the Soldiers are from the northern part of the country, Callahan said.

"They miss being around hockey. We want to make them feel like they are a part of Augusta, but like home," he said.

All of the season's Friday and Saturday home games begin at 7:35 p.m. and are played at the Augusta-Richmond County Civic Center. The regular season ends April 9. The Lynx will also provide bus transportation to and from



During intermission, the title sponsor of the game will be given the opportunity to take the ice to say thanks

to the troops. Tickets are for active duty Soldiers and their families only, and will be available in Darling Hall Room 337 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, while supplies last. For information, call 791-6779.

Hunt for Bin Laden continues

Search goes on 24/7, DoD leaders report

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The manhunt for Osama bin Laden continues "every day, 24 hours a day," the commander of coalition forces in Afghanistan told NBC News this week.

Army Lt. Gen. David W. Barno, commander of Combined Forces Command Afghanistan, said "a very, very dedicated, highly capable element" is committed to the effort and they're "looking at the intelligence and ... ready to respond."

This organization, he said, is dedicated to finding not only bin Laden, but also other senior al Qaeda and Taliban leaders. These include Ayman al-Zawahiri, indicted for his alleged role in the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and Nairobi, Kenya, and now believed to serve as bin Laden's doctor and adviser.

Also on the coalition's "most wanted list" is Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who the State Department designated a terrorist earlier this year for his role in both al Qaeda and Taliban activities.

Barno's comments, offered during an Oct. 7 interview focused on the third anniversary of Operation Enduring Freedom and the Afghan national elections Oct. 9, echoed those Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, delivered Oct. 4 to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

Rumsfeld noted the contrast between bin Laden's station in life three years ago and now. In 2001, Rumsfeld said, "Osama bin Laden was safe



Re-enlistment on high

Photo by Pfc. Armando Monroig

Capt. Earl Cochran (left), 35th Military Police Detachment commander, gives Sgt. Scott Wesley, 35th MP Det., the oath of re-enlistment, while hanging from the Youth Challenge Academy rappel tower, Tuesday. Wesley re-enlisted for four years, already having served four.

and sheltered in Afghanistan cial lines have been reduced, Pakistan border. (and his) network was dispersed around the world.

"Three years later, more than two-thirds of al Qaeda's key members and associates have been detained, captured or killed," Rumsfeld continued. Osama bin Laden is on the run. Many of his key associates are behind bars or dead. His finan-

but not closed down.

"And I suspect," the secretary said, "he spends a good deal of every day avoiding being caught.'

Barno said he's witnessing "a tremendous amount of cooperation" between coalition and Pakistani military units on both sides of the Afghanistan-

He said a Pakistani unit responded to a recent coalition request to move toward the border and block the escape of terrorists trying to cross into Pakistan so coalition troops could capture them. "So there's a great deal of cooperation, far higher than we would have seen 12 months ago," he said.

513th MI Brigade holds annual organizational day competition

1st Lt. Daniel Rountree

513th Military Intelligence Brigade

The morning dawned overcast and foggy with a hint of rain.

But the damp, dark weather eventually gave way to sunny skies that matched the moods of the competitors at the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade's organizational day competition.

Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and contractors participated in the annual competition focused on competition, team building and fun.

Because of the high operations tempo within the brigade, the events this year were compressed into a day-long compe-

"Real world deployments in support of Operation Iraqi and Enduring Freedom prevented all of our units from having the normal amount of Soldiers to fill all of their teams," said Sgt. Maj. Keena Avery, the brigade S3 sergeant major. "As a result, we decided to have one full day focused on the games rather than five."

Events included golf, horseshoes, flag football, softball, basketball and racquet-

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Lowe, S3 training NCOIC for the 513th, said that he "enjoyed the camaraderie and esprit de corps that the events provided," adding that he enjoyed getting out of the office and playing sports all day.

513TH MI BRIGADE

O-DAY ACTIVITY WINNERS ARE: Golf – HHC, 513th MI Bde. Horseshoes – 297th MI Bn. Flag Football – HHC, 513th MI Bde. Softball – HHC, 513th MI Bde. Basketball – 201st MI Bn. Tug of War – 201st MI Bn. Racquetball – 297th MI Bn.



Photo by 1st Lt. Daniel Rountree

A Soldier throws horseshoes at the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade

Fall festivals continue in area communities

Denise Allen Signal staff

F-16 fly-bys, the Barnwell Jump Team and Paul Stender and his jet schoolbus are a few of the scheduled events during the Boshears Skyfest 2004 Saturday and Sunday at Augusta's Daniel Field.

The annual air show will feature static displays of aircraft such as two Huey helicopters, a PT-17, a B-17 and two Waco biplanes.

There will be more than 200 aircraft from war planes to home built models. Plus, there will be a display of radio controlled vehicles.

Special guests include Charlie Culp, the flying farmer; and John Moody, who will present his ultra-light aerobatics routine.

Tickets to the events are \$8 in advance for adults and \$10 at the gate. Children under 12 are admitted free with a paying adult.

Advance tickets are available at all Pump-N-Shop stations, Kroger at Washing-

ton Road and Alexander Drive, Winn-Dixie on Martintown Road in North Augusta, and Harmon Optical at Southgate Plaza.

Daniel Field is located at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Wrightsboro Road. From Fort Gordon, take Gordon Highway toward downtown Augusta, and turn left on Highland Avenue. For more information, go

to www.boshears.com.

HISTORY COMES TO LIFE North Augusta's Creighton Park will be transformed into a Colonial-era village for the 13th Annual "Colonial Times: A Day To Remember."

Historical interpreters, dressed in period costumes, will demonstrate life as it was in the 1700s, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.

to 3:30 p.m. Sunday. There will be a blacksmith, gold and silversmith, woodworker, potter, weaver, candlemaker and milliner among the re-enactors.

Special guests will include Kitty Wilson-Evans, an

historian and educator, who sings and tells stories as a slave character named Kessie, and musician Ken Bloom.

Other glimpses into life of the time can be seen at the tavern and meeting house. Re-enactors will portray an 18th century church service as well as hold school classes for the children.

The event is free. For information call (803) 279-7560 or go to

www.colonialtimes.us. To get to Creighton Park, take Interstate 20 toward Columbia. Take exit 1 in North Augusta. Turn right on Martintown Road. Take a right on West Avenue and a right on West Spring Grove.

SWEET POTATO FEST Langley, S.C. is the spot for the annual Sweet Potato Festival from 11 a.m. to 7

p.m. Saturday. The festival features arts and crafts, rides, games and of course, a pie-eating contest.

The sweet potato fest will be at Jacksonville Community Park, Huber Clay Road, in Langley. For more informa-

tion, call (803) 593-9260.

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Hispanic former combat pilot talks about POW experiences

Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

MCLEAN, Va. – Reflecting on the times his North Vietnamese captors threatened to put him on trial and punish him for his crimes with a possible death sentence, Everett Alvarez Jr., 67, said, "There wasn't anything I could do in the prison cell we later called 'The Hanoi Hilton.' I figured, if they kill me, they kill me. What can I do?"

One of only a few Hispanic Navy combat pilots at the time, the then 26-year-old Mexican American was at first the only American incarcerated in what became known as the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison. His only prison mates were Vietnamese criminals until the Vietnam War heated up and more Americans were captured. That's because on Aug. 5, 1964, Alvarez became the first American aviator shot down over

It was the first clash between U.S. and North Vietnamese forces. He was participating in a retaliatory strike on strategic points in North Vietnam after North Vietnamese PT boats fired torpedoes at the destroyer USS Maddox in international waters in the Gulf of Tonkin three days earlier.

"I had no choice" but to eject, he said. "If I felt I had a chance, I'd have ridden it down, but the plane started to come apart. I'd lost a wing, there was a lot of smoke, the plane was on fire, and every emergency indicator went off all at once. I knew if I stuck with it I was definitely not going to make it."

He landed in the middle of a small fleet of fishing boats, and the North Vietnamese fishermen fished him out of the water. "I learned later that those fishing boats were like a little militia, all with rifles and other weapons," said the A4C Skyhawk pilot who was assigned to Attack Squadron 144 aboard the USS Constellation.

"I thought they were going to kill me," said the recipient of the Silver Star Medal, two Legion of Merit awards, two Bronze Stars, in there and deal with the situathe Distinguished Flying Cross and tion as best I could," he said. two Purple Hearts. "But they put me in a local jail cell with my legs in leg irons."



Retired Navy Cmdr. Everett Alvarez Jr. said when he got a commission in the Navy in 1960 there were only a few Hispanics going to flight training. "Today," he said, "you see a heck of a lot more, because the opportunities are greater and the push is greater." Alvarez is standing by a painting of the A4C Skyhawk jet fighter he was shot down in over North Vietnam on Aug. 5, 1964.

That was the beginning of eight and a half years as a POW – the longest held prisoner of war at the Hanoi Hilton, but not the longest held POW of the war. "At the time, I didn't know an Army Special Forces guy had been captured in South Vietnam," Alvarez noted. "I found out through propaganda photographs at the camp."

"For months, I wasn't – in their view – a prisoner of war," Alvarez noted. "In 1964, there was no declaration of war, no relationship, no communications between the U.S. and North Vietnam."

Alvarez thought of trying to escape, but he looked around the inside of the prison compound and realized that his cell was inside another compound. "After several months, I started to think, 'Maybe they're not going to kill me," he said. "Maybe I'll make it. It was a learning expe-

With no comrades to rely on for support, Alvarez summoned up his own strength from his training. "Since I was all by myself, I figured I'd go on my basic training and instincts, hang

But life wasn't easy at the Hanoi Hilton and there weren't any fivewhen he uncovered his dinner plate, Alvarez was surprised to find the culinary delight of the day was a bird floating in grease with full feathers unplucked.

Calling the food "horrible,"

Alvarez said his captors started giving him special food after the normal diet kept making him sick. "The food was not good for years, and then toward the end, they started to improve it," said Alvarez, adding that throughout the ordeal, he suffered a lot of diarrhea and dysentery.

"In my opinion, the food improved along with our conditions," he continued, "because they recognized that we were going to be an important part of the outcome of the war," Alvarez noted. "They recognized that we were a bargaining portion and started to take better care of us beginning in late 1969, especially in the last year when the U.S. started bombing the north again. The harder we bombed, the better the treatment."

Finally, Alvarez was released from the POW camp Feb. 12, 1973, along with more than 575 other POWs, and returned home. His marriage had not survived his captivity.

He said he got his life back together, cleaned up his former star dinners. For example, one day marriage through the courts, got

married, started a family and went on with his career. After retiring from the Navy, he became founder and president of Conwal Inc., a management consulting firm in McLean in 1987. He also earned a law degree and continued his government service.

Alvarez earned a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Santa Clara (Calif.) University in 1960 and received his commission in October 1960 through the Navy Aviation Officer Candidate Program.

"I always had a yearning to fly as a little kid," said Alvarez, whose name graces a high school in Salinas, Calif., a post office in Rockville, Md., Alvarez Village on a military installation and a park in the City of Santa Clara. "We used go out and play in an area outside Salinas where there were a bunch of cannibalized bi-wing airplanes they used as crop dusters. We'd sit out there and play.'

He served under President Ronald Reagan, who named him as the No. 2 official at the Peace Corps. He was later tapped as deputy secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and then became the secretary of that organization. Alvarez also chaired the Cares Commission for the VA and was a member of the President's Task Force for Healthcare Reform.

"When I came in the military, I saw only one other Hispanic coming through flight training programs," he continued. "Today, you see a heck of a lot more, because the opportunities are greater and the push is greater.'

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Workin' at the carwash

Photo by Spc. Nicole Robus

Members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Augusta Division dry a van after washing it Saturday at The Total Force in Hephzibah. The cadets raised \$400 toward an upcoming trip to Norfolk, Va. For information about the Sea Cadet program call Lt. j.g. Bob Riffe at 833-0339.

CHUCK R. PARDUE

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Pfc. Armando Monroig Signal staff

For many it is a ritual.

It may involve tapping the pack gently against their palm or striking their favorite lighter.

After lighting up and gazing into the flame, the oral satisfaction and taste of the smoke is a complicated demon to re-

But contrary to what many may believe, smoking does cause lung cancer – in fact it is the number one cause.

Lt. Col. John Atkins, Company A, Eisenhower Army Medical Center and chief of the Pulmonary Disease Clinic, said lung cancer is deadly.

Lung cancer "is the number one cancer killer of men and women in the United States and the world," he said.

As of 2002 more than 150,000 deaths were attributed to lung cancer and there are pain, fever, night sweats, a routine X-ray and they find a more than 200,000 new cases diagnosed each year.

He said there are cancers that may move from other organs into the lungs, but lung cancer originates in the lung tissue itself.

The number one cause is tobacco exposure – primarily cigarette smoke – but other types of exposure such as as-

bestos and radon contribute as the age of 6, 7 or 8, at the age

gest problems with lung can-

cer is that it is asymptomatic - those stricken with lung canit doesn't display symp-

toms. "People go months, or even years, without having significant symptoms," said Atkins.

If patients do exhibit symptoms, Atkins said they would be extremely non-specific: cough with or without sputum and blood, chest

weight loss, shortness of shadow that upon further breath and wheezing. Development of the disease can occur at any age group,

said Atkins, who has known of a 40-year-old with lung cancer. The problem, Atkins said, is that it all depends on the amount of exposure to the can-

cer catalysts. "If you started smoking at

of 30 you've had significant to-Atkins said one of the big-bacco exposure," said Atkins.

> He said the age group for cer ranges anywhere 40 from

> > years to 90 years old. "It is most commonly seen in the sixth decade of life," said Atkins. "Age 50 to 65."

He said a patient may go to the hospital for pneumonia, urinary tract infection or some other m e d i c a l problem, get

evaluation turns out to be can-Smokers are in the highest risk group he said, adding that it is still unknown how much second hand smoke will affect non-smokers although there is

People with underlying lung

data that suggest there is some

diseases such as industrial related diseases as a result of exposure to cotton dust or dust in coal mines may be at risk as well.

Atkins said that if "you take away tobacco, you take away over 90 percent of the cases of lung cancer."

PREVENTION METHODS: STOP SMOKING, NEVER START

"It's more specifically with cigarette smoking but there is a risk with smoking cigars and pipes, but it is much less," said Atkins.

Once diagnosed with lung cancer, treatment is a key is-

"You treat lung cancer surgically," said Atkins. "If you want to cure yourself of lung cancer, it has to be cut out."

One of the problems with lung cancer is that many times it is identified at a later stage, he said. In order to cut it out of the body and remove all of it, it needs to be caught early enough to do so.

If not caught early enough and the disease spreads, surgery alone will not be of any benefit, he said.

"For primary lung cancer, we look at the stage and determine how to treat it."

See Lung cancer, page 12

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Army researches breast cancer

Michael Dukes Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Officials from the Walter Reed Clinical Breast Care Project recently joined forces with one of the world's top breast cancer researchers – forming a collaboration that they believe could

breakthrough for women Walter Reed had already been working since 2000 with Windber Research Institute in Pennsylvania on identifying genomic changes in breast tissue, said project director Col. Craig Shriver.

lead to a significant medical

Now Army researchers have joined efforts with Dr. Philippa Darbre, a molecular biologist at Reading University in the United Kingdom.

After presenting findings to the Society of Surgical Oncology showing cancer to be more prevalent in certain areas of women's breasts, Walter Reed researchers were introduced to Darbre.

Separately, both Walter Reed's and Darbe's research seemed to have only half the equation. After the editor of Lancet Oncology introduced them to each other, they real-

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ized that their research was leading in the same direction; so they combined efforts.

"It's a tantalizing possibility that this experimental work can provide some really definitive answers, but it's not going to be quick, that's for sure," Darbre said.

years, Darbre has been a world

there are environmentally based chemicals that end up in breast tissue, and some of those chemicals are found in some commonly used antiperspirants and deodorants," Shriver said.

The focus of Darbre's research has been on parabens, "Over the course of many a chemical preservative used in many cosmetics.

leader in identifying the fact that "(Parabens) can mimic estrogen action and last January we showed that we can measure it in the breast," Darbre

See Breast cancer, page 12



Dr. Jeffrey Hooke prepares new tissue samples for freezing in the lab at Walter Reed. Researchers there recently began collaborating with a leading British molecular biologist on breast cancer.





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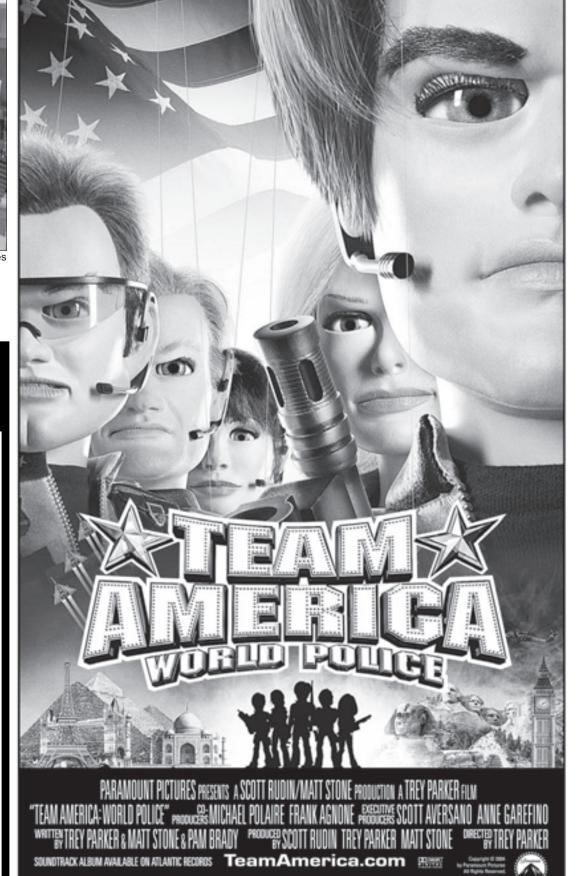
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New dangers associated with post-dated checks

Sandy Goss Army News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. – Have YOU ever written a post-dated check?

Unless you are Donald Trump or Bill Gates you probably have.

Most of us have mortgages or rent payments due on the first of the month. Just last month you might have written your check on the 25th and dated it for the 1st before slipping it in the mail to the bank. You wanted to ensure your check arrived on time and since your Army paycheck hits the bank on the 30th, there's no problem, right? Wrong.

NEW POLICY TO ELIMINATE LEEWAY

A young Soldier's spouse tries to make it to payday but all the milk for the baby is gone so the parent goes to the commissary and does what generations of folks have frequently done, write a check based upon their "pay coming in tomorrow." Used to be they could get away with this, but after Oct. 28, they're going to get whacked – because the money will be electronically removed from the bank account as soon as the check is presented for payment. If the funds are not there, the check will be 'returned' NSF from all those nickel and dime fees everyone com-

– with the associated fees.

CHECKS TO BE LIKE DEBIT CARD A new law goes into effect on Oct. 28, called "Check 21." You can learn about "Check 21" in exhausting detail elsewhere, but in essence, the law effectively changes our paper checks into debit cards. While the banks don't have to they can cash the check as soon as it is presented for payment (don't tell me that the payable date precludes this, checks are cashed early all the time.) If the money isn't in your account, when you actually write the check, the instant the check is presented for payment, it may bounce. Won't matter if it's for the mortgage or baby formula, your NSF check is returned. \$30 bounced check fee from the bank and another \$30 from the mortgage company or commissary . "Late Mortgage Payment" goes

into your financial history, yada, yada, yada.... Bottom Line Up Front: You can't "float" or "postdate" checks anymore. If you do, it may cost you hundreds of dollars.

FAILURE TO ADJUST MEANS PAYING

The advent of the technical ability to instantaneously cash a check, coupled with the ever increasing pressure facing banks to maximize profits (which come

plains about, including bounced check charges) will provide a potential windfall of additional "profits" because a lot of people will continue to try and postdate checks or write them based upon what used to be the mechanical, time-consuming check processing practices of years gone by.

It will take these people some time to adjust – which must be viewed as a potential revenue stream for the banks and a potential financial disaster for the unwary. (While the mechanics of processing checks will change – the actual paper checks will never be returned to your bank – the electronic copies of the 'cancelled' checks will be kept for proof of payment.)

As leaders we must ensure that our Soldiers and civilians know that the Army is not the only institution undergoing massive transformation and restructuring. The entire financial industry is changing as well and we need to exhaust all available efforts to ensure that the hard-earned wages of our Soldiers are not squandered on bounced check charges.

In IMA we are experienced in finding new ways to do business. We must ensure our Soldiers know this: your check is now a debit card.

(Goss is the public affairs officer for the Installa-

tion Management Agency – Northeast Region.)

Why I serve: The memories keep 'Sarge' going

By Mark Baker

Master Sgt. Jack Gordon

Special to American Forces Press Service

LOGISTICS SUPPORT AREA ANACONDA, BALAD, Iraq – "I've been taking taxpayers' money all these years, and I can't refuse duty. It would be like me telling my mom and dad 'thanks for the money' without giving them anything back for it."

That's how Army Reserve Sgt. Jack Cormack of the 362nd Military Police Battalion sees his service, dating back to 1971. He said he enlisted then instead of waiting to be drafted, perhaps have more control over his destiny in green. Today, some of the much younger 362nd soldiers call Cormack "Pappy."

"They kid me about being in so long," Cormack said. "I was in before some of my boys were born – I call them my boys, but

they're men ... every one of them. Sometimes they call me 'Grandpa,'" he

Like the rest of the unit's soldiers, Cormack performs patrols every day within Anaconda's perimeter. Anaconda, the hub for distribution of material and supplies in Iraq, is home to some 23,000 Soldiers.

Cormack said the patrolling isn't always uneventful. He recalled a recent night when a round whizzed past his head. Ballistics examiners determined that the hole in his vehicle's glass was indeed made by a bullet.

"Some nights are so quiet you'd think you were back home in Pennsylvania or West Virginia," Cormack said, "and other nights ... it gets pretty interest-

Cormack still recalls his "early" training for being a Soldier came from his Boy Scout leader, who also recruited him into the Army. Cormack said the Scout leader "had us looking like a bunch of miniature Rangers: Every piece of camping equipment we had was government-issue surplus, down to the entrenching tool. We had web belts – everything!"

Cormack completed basic and advanced training for an infantry assignment at Fort Polk, La., where he also qualified with the mortar and 90 mm recoilless

'The other white meat'

Private Murphy



Sgt. Jack Cormack of the 362nd Military Police Battalion, uses a speed gun to track speeders on Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Balad. Iraq. A bullet hole in the unit's patrol car came from a shot fired from outside the camp perimeter while Cormack was on patrol.

His first assignment was with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, and within months found himself in Thailand, where his unit was assigned as a security force for the 7th Air Force. Cormack's service during the next year in Southeast Asia is something he keeps close, but it isn't because he can't

"I look back on that period as the Army's darkest days – the public wasn't behind the Army like it is today." Cormack said.

He contrasted the early 1970s perception and awareness of military service to that of today. "When I went to Ashley, Pa., I was shown patriotism like never before," he said. "The people of Ashley will remain as my 'other' hometown for as long as I live. It's something I didn't experience in the early days. If I get Alzheimer's, that's the one thing I hope would keep repeating itself. I hope the good Lord never lets me forget that."

Cormack said he's glad to see Soldiers today "getting their due" from America. In fact, when he was returning home on rest and recuperation leave during his Iraq deployment, he was moved into a first-class seat on the final leg of the long flight, and was presented with a set of wings from the collar of a Delta pilot.

"He said he had 28 years with Delta and he remembered the old days," said Cormack. "I couldn't take off my sewn-on rank, so I gave him a bill with Saddam on it, from the old money.'

Before being called to duty again for Operation Iraqi Freedom, Cormack served as a "Hometown Hero" recruiter during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the early 1990s. The taste of military life again was enough to rekindle his interest. After his tour, he joined the Army Reserve and was

assigned to the 492nd Replacement Company in Beaver, W.Va. After a few more unit changes, he served a year in Bosnia in 1996-97 with the 335th Military Police Battalion. His law enforcement experience with the Department of Public Safety made his training as a military policeman much easier, he said. He graduated in the top 10 percent of the class.

Cormack enjoys his role as the old Soldier in the 362nd, and is always ready to crack a joke to maintain the morale of his troops. He is proud too, to still be serving ... again.

"I've seen a lot of 'em come and go," Cormack said. "I remember 'Two-Dots Running,' a young cadet. I raised him up – he's a captain now and I'm proud of that. These young men have really shown me what an American Soldier – the new American fighting man ... is all about. It is a world of difference – I've seen a lot of changes.'

Before his mobilization for OIF, Cormack was content as owner of "Mad Jack's Cycle Dreams," a Harley Davidson dealer and motorcycle repair shop,

(Gordon is assigned to the Public Affairs acquisition team, Army Reserve

Feedback

What do you think of the new "Check-21" policy?



I think it's a fair policy. It makes people more aware of the money they're spending. **Airman Nathon Johnson** 338th Training Squadron



I agree with the new rule. It's going to make people more knowledgeable about managing their funds.

Sgt. 1st Class John Mitchell **EAMC**



It's good. If you don't have the funds there, of course it's going to bounce. It becomes a credit issue.

Spc. James Holder Co. A, 369th Sig. Bn.



I agree with it. You need to make sure you have the funds available before you write any checks. It'll keep people out of trouble.

Staff Sgt. **Felix Sosagaston Army Dental Lab**



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Difference in dress irrelevant

Spc. Nicole Robus Signal military editor

When going through the gates and traveling around post, post security forces wear different uniforms.

There are three different types of security forces on post. There are the Military Police, the Department of the Army civilian police and Vance Federal Security contract security guards.

"We want to be able to educate the public on the authority and experience the different security forces bring to Fort Gordon," said Capt. Earl Cochran, 35th Military Police Detachment commander and Fort Gordon Deputy Provost Marshal.

The Provost Marshal and his staff have done a thorough job to ensure the Fort Gordon public receives the highest quality law enforcement services possible, said Cochran.

"Because of the attacks of 9/11 and the ongoing Global War on Terrorism, this installation along with most of the other Department of Defense installations have received resources to hire law enforcement and security personnel to allow for the protection of servicemembers, family members, civilians and property on the installation," said Cochran.

"With all of the new faces and uniforms at the gates and around the installation we thought it was important to educate the community on the massive changes within the Provost Marshal's Office.

"Before we had all of these forces on post, the gate security was maintained by Soldiers from the installation or National Guard units," said Cochran.

"The DAP forces were added to the Fort Gordon security work force in August of 2002," he said.

All DAP officers that work law enforcement duties on post are required to pass a six week Fort Gordon Military Police Law **Enforcement Certification** Course and physical fitness test administered by the PMO.

Their mission is the same as the Military Police on the installation: gate security, law enforcement and security patrol and response to calls for assistance.

DAPs perform the same mission and have the same authority that Military Police have including the authority to apprehend.

The mission of a military police officer is to maintain area security and law and order, support in maneuver and mobility of units, conduct police intelligence operations and internment and resettlement.

"The level of experience prior to becoming a Fort Gordon DAP is outstanding," said Cochran.

"The senior DAP captain is a former Ranger School instructor, deputy sheriff, state investigator and DoD





U.S. Army Military Police officer

police supervisor with over 23 years of law enforcement experience.

"Of the three supervisory lieutenants, one is a retired military police first sergeant, the second is a retired Marine gunnery sergeant and the other has extensive experience in local law enforcement and emergency medical services," added Cochran.

"One third of our officers were state certified police officers, coming to us from law enforcement agencies in Georgia and South Carolina. Another third were certified corrections officers, also from Georgia and South Carolina. A large portion of our work force is either retired or prior service Army Military Police or Air Force Security Police. All of our officers have either prior military service or are retired enlisted members from across all of the DoD

services," said Cochran. The personnel that



Department of the Army civilian police officer

makeup Vance CSGs is much like the DAPs when it comes to retired and prior servicemembers.

Their senior supervisor is a retired MP major.

Their primary mission is security at the gates to the installation and at certain other spots requiring an armed security officer. Their authority is much

like the DAP officer, however they can only detain someone for the length of time necessary for either a DAP or MP to make the apprehension, added Cochran.

In order to work on the installation, the Vance Security personnel must also attend training, said Cochran.

There is a long list of subjects post security guards are trained on including standards of conduct and ethics, jurisdiction and authority to use of force.

Army regulations dictates the training requirements to become a security guard on



Vance Federal Security contract security guards

a federal installation," said Cochran.

The security guards go through an initial two week training course and receive training throughout the year to ensure a high level of skills and knowledge are maintained, added Cochran. The security forces have differences in training as

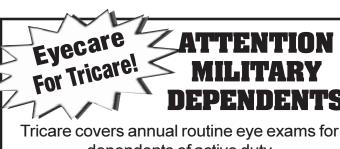
well as uniforms. The MPs wear a brassard on their left shoulder that says MP on it.

The difference in uniforms between the DAP and Vance Security is that the DAP have "POLICE" on the patch located on their left shoulder, said Cochran.

The hats are also different, the DAP also have "POLICE" on the patch worn on their hat while the Vance Security has "Vance Security" printed on their hat, he added.

(Information for this story came from the office of the Fort Gordon MP commander.)

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(ELCA) 3232 Washington Road Augusta, Ga. 706-860-0439 Pastor Jonathan Edwards email: ADVLUCH@AOL.com Sunday Worship 0830 & 1100 hrs. With Holy Communion Sunday School 0945 hrs. Nursery Provided Visitors Welcome **ALDERSGATE UNITED** METHODIST CHRUCH The Church of the Warm Hear 3185 Wheeler Road, Augusta 706-733-4416 www.aldersgateum.com Sunday activities 8:30, 9:30, 11 a.m. Worship

9:45, 11 a.m. Sunday School For All Ages Nursery Provided Bible study, children's and youth activities throughout the week. For more information.

contact the church office

ASCENSION LUTHERAN

CHURCH 2860 Wells Drive P.O. Box 6749, Augusta, Five Minutes From Gate 5 Call 798-6015 for Directions Pastor - Rev. Michael E. Freed Sunday School 9:00 a.m. -Worship 10:30 a.m. Nursery Provided, Visitors

Welcome Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Bible Study ATONEMENT EPISCOPAL

CHURCH 2616 Tobacco Road -Hephzibah 706-796-3545 The Rev. Kurt D. Miller, Vicar 2 Miles from Gate 5 Sunday-Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday Schoolduring worship service Wednesday Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m. Bible Study - 7:45 p.m. **AUGUSTA FIRST CHURCH** OF THE NAZARENE

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Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Nursery provided for all services Youth Ministries Sunday 4:00 p.m.

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BIBLE CHURCH OF AUGUSTA 1005 Druid Park Ave Located Between Walton Way & Wrightsboro Rd. In The Heart of Augusta Regular Services: Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Services 11:00 a.m.

call Mike Andrews, 554-2626

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Evans, GA (Across from the Fire Station) 706-855-1249 www.evansgachurchofchrist.org Preacher - Arthur Pigman Sunday Bible Study 9 AM Morning Worship 10 AM Evening Worship 6 PM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:15 PM FAITH CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1215 New Savannah Road Augusta, GA 30901 706-722-8665

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Richard B. Peoples, Sr. Senior Pastor e-mail: peoplesr@folc.org Janice Peoples, Co-Pastor e-mail: peoplesj@foclc.org Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.

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2:00 p.m. Korean Full Gospel Tabernacle 6:00 pm. Evening Worship TUESDAY 10:00 a.m. Women's Ministries

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Marriage Enrichment School of Pastoral Training **GREATER APOSTOLIC HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH** 3443 Morgan Road

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Sunday Worship 11:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

"Learning to live"

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

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Children Dance Practice

SATURDAY

Prayer 8:30 a.m.

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Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Is Welcomed! **OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN** Ministries for All Ages LIVING FAITH CHURCH CHURCH "A Church That Walks By Faith (Missouri Synod)

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Military medics move combat care to front lines

Donna Miles American Forces Press Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, **Texas** – From surgical care to physical therapy to blood supplies, the military medical system is moving its assets closer to the front lines to be more responsive to patient needs and, when

troops to duty faster. At the same time, the military is boosting knowhow about treating combat casualties so everyone on the battlefield, regardless of job specialty, knows the most basic steps to take to help save a life.

possible, to return wounded

Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan represent the first time these concepts, which the Army started introducing about eight years ago, are being applied in combat.

Army Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School here, said the trend reflects research about injuries, particularly trauma injuries. "What we have found is that the sooner you get to people after they have been wounded, the better your chances of saving them," he said. Weightman said that's

particularly true of injuries involving extensive blood loss, "because that's what kills people on the battlefield if they don't die instantly," he said. "So the sooner we can get the medical people to them, the better the outcome.'

Recognizing the importance of quick care for wounded troops, the Army started beefing up its training programs – introducing a three-day combat lifesaver course taught to all soldiers in their units and creating a whole new job description for combat medics, who receive their training here, Weightman explained.

In addition, the Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute here prepares doctors, nurses, physician assistants and other medical service corps professionals from all military services for the rigors of combat and the challenges of providing patient care on the front lines.

But just as important as increasing expertise about combat lifesaving, Weightman said, is getting it as close as possible to the patient.

In response, each Army company typically includes four to five combat medics, who operate "right there

hoto by Maj. Mary Adams-Challenge

Army Sgt. Samuel Adegbilero from the 130th Engineering

Brigade, left, receives physical therapy care at the 21st

Combat Support Hospital in Badal, Iraq, from Army Sqt.

Erick Cedeno, an occupational therapist assigned to the

Hansen, a physical therapy technician from the 21st

Combat Support Hospital.

10th Combat Support Hospital, and Army Staff Sqt. Wendy



Army Cpl. Robert Bosley, a reservist with the 2290th U.S. Army Hospital in Washington, D.C., learns how to operate a field respirator at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, from his instructor, Army Staff Sgt. Rachel Marchbanks.

where the action is happening," he said.

In addition, forward surgical teams, 20-person units that include three surgeons and an orthopedic surgeon are being assigned at the battalion or brigade level. Weightman said these teams moved alongside the combat forces during the early, "manuever" phase of operations in Iraq, cutting medical evacuations, when necessary, to less than 20 minutes.

Weightman said these teams offer not just trauma care, but also a full spectrum of services ranging from physical therapy to preventive medicine.

"We've pushed a lot of resources down to the brigade level and the division level," he said. "So not only can we treat them far forward, we can prevent them from getting sick and needing to get evacuated."

evacuations to higherecheleon care facilities are far shorter than in the past, Weightman said, thanks to

the positioning of medical helicopters closer to the units. "We're able to get down and get to the soldiers after they'll been wounded and get them back to definitive care in under an hour – in many cases, in 20 or 30 minutes," he said.

Four Army combat support hospitals throughout Iraq offer the most advanced patient treatment available in the country, "the best care short of a medical center," Weightman said.

For medical service troops, the trend toward offering care closer to the front offers unique challenges and opportunities.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Quentin "Shane" Thompson experienced the trend firsthand during the opening days of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While coalition troops were moving north toward Baghdad, Thompson traveled directly alongside them with the blood supply used to treat casualties.

"We were constantly moving," said Thompson, who quickly set up opera-

tions each time the unit stopped, drawing packed red blood cells from the back of a refrigerated 5-ton truck.

"Blood management has usually been done in the rear echelon," said Thompson, now a microbiology instructor at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School's laboratory technician course. "But now the idea is to get the blood to the person as close as possible to the front lines. We're trying to provide the best care possible as far forward as possible."

Maj. Tracy Smith, director of the school's physical therapy specialty program, said she's witnessed the same phenomenon in her field. Although physical therapists and their assistants once rarely deployed to the battlefield, today they're in Southwest Asia, providing sports care so troops can more quickly recover from their injuries and return to the battle.

"In the past, people with minor injuries would normally be sent way back to the rear," she said. "But with technicians and therapists now forward-deployed, we've become force multipliers. We truly enhance the numbers of warfighters (available for

duty).' Maj. Mary Adams-Challenger was among just two physical therapists in Iraq during the first rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom, although that number has since increased exponentially.

By providing physical therapy care at the 21st Combat Support Hospital in Balad rather than farther to the rear, she said she was able to help return troops to duty faster, and with better long-term results. "Early intervention is the key with these acute injuries," she said.

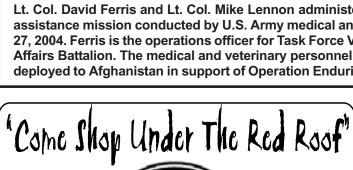
"It's all about timing. If you're able to provide sufficient treatment early on, it's far better for the patient."



Time for your medicine

Photo by Spc. Jerry T. Combes

Lt. Col. David Ferris and Lt. Col. Mike Lennon administer medicine to a cow during a cooperative medical assistance mission conducted by U.S. Army medical and veterinary personnel in Deh Afghana, Afghanistan, Sept. 27, 2004. Ferris is the operations officer for Task Force Victory, and Mike Lennon is assigned to the 450th Civil Affairs Battalion. The medical and veterinary personnel are Soldiers assigned to Task Force Victory while deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



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Chapel Call

Collective Protestant Services

9:00 a.m. • Liturgical Service, Bicentennial Chapel 9:00 a.m. • Community Contemportary Soldiers Service, Friendship Chapel 10:30 a.m. • Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel

11 a.m. • Gospel Service at Signal Theatre 1 a.m. • Bicentennial Chapel

11 a.m. • Friendship Chape Catholic Services

11:45 a.m. Monday thru Friday, Eisenhower Army Med Ctr. Chapel 12:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, Good Shepherd Chape 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Confessions, Good Shepherd Chapel

5 p.m. Saturday, Vigil Mass, Good Shepherd Chapel Sunday Masses 3:30 a.m., 10 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel

11:45 a.m. Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chape Jewish Activities

Holy Day Services, Announced Jewish Activities Center, Bldg. 38804 Daily and Sabbath service available off-post for Jewish personnel

Islamic Services Jumah Prayer Service on Fridays Oct-Apr at 1245-1:30, and Apr-Oct

from 1:30-2:30. These are held in Bldg. 38804, Academic Drive.

For more information, call CPO (Ret.) Marshall Abuwi 772-4303 Denominational Services DS Service - Sunday 1:30-3:30 p.m., Barnes Avenue Chapel

Samoan Service, Sunday 1 p.m., Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414 Religious Education

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, Religious Education Center Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Classes, Religious Education Center (Sept. thru May). Other Programs/Services

Episcopalian Soldier Representative is Kurt Miller at 791-0213 LDS representative is Sergeant 1st Class (retired) Scott Robison 533-0376. Apostolic Pentecostal's representative is Chaplain Snyder,

Rosh Hashana (Sept. 16-17) Sept. 15: Evening service & dinner 6:45 (please RSVP for dinner)

Sept. 16: 9:30 a.m. Services • 7:00 p.m. Mincha & Tashlich Sept. 17: 9:30 a.m. Services Yom Kuppur (Sept. 25)

Sept. 24: 6:45 p.m., Kol Nidrei • Sept. 25: 9:30 a.m. Services, (fast ends at 7:58 p.m.)

Sukkot (Sept. 30-Oct. 6) Sept. 29: 7:15 (first night) Sept. 30: 9:30 a.m. services

9:30 a.m. services Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah (Oct. 7-8)

7:00 p.m. services 9:30 a.m. services

Bible Studies OCF Bible Study - Monday 6:30 a.m., Officer Christian Fellowship Bible

Study, Friendship Chapel, 791-2056. Friday evening OCF POC is Col. Hook, 863-8231, or Capt. Craft, 364-5144. Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414 Bicentennial Chapel

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Devotional Luncheon, Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414 Wednesday, 9:00 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414 Wednesday 11:45 a.m. EAMC Bible Study, DDEAMC Din. Fac. Conf. Rm., 3rd floor Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Signal Theatre, Faith Community Bible Study Vednesday, 7:30 p.m., Friendship Chapel Bible Study uesday, 11:30 a.m. 63rd & 67th SIG BN Bible Study, Contact Chaplain

Chapel Directory Bicentennial Chapel, 791-3959 Good Shepherd Chapel (Catholic), 791-2945 aith Community Chapel Activities 791-4703 (during duty hours) Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel, 791-2056 EisenhowerArmy Medical Center Chapel, 787-6667

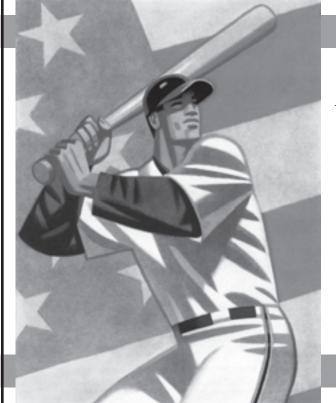
Religious Education rotestant/Catholic Program, Mr. Randall Dillard 791-4703 For additional information, call 791-4683

the Installation Chaplain's Office, Building 29601



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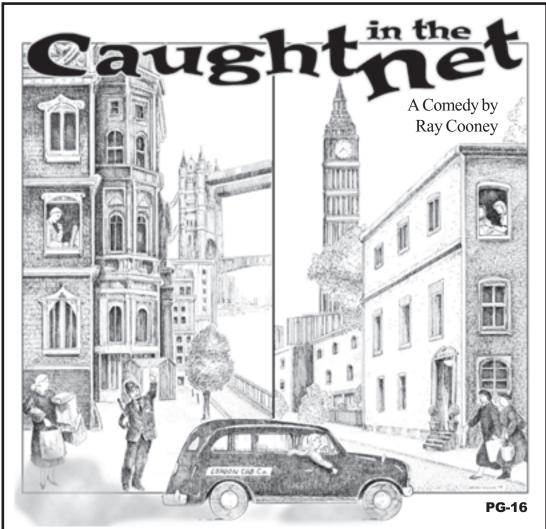
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FISHING TOURNAMENT

October 17, Butler Reservoir, Daylight - 2 p.m. Open to all ID cardholders and members of the public with a FG fishing license guest permit. \$20.00 per person, \$10.00 FGSC members with a \$5.00 Big Fish Pot. \$100.00 awarded to first place and \$50.00 to second place.

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30,000 ways to connect to a Soldier

Mark Heeter
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Every day in cities, towns and rural outposts throughout America and around the world, hundreds of people sit down at their computers to carry out one mission: they head to the "To Our Soldiers" Web site.

"This site represents a viable communication tool for the general public to reach Soldiers while deployed or at their home station assignment," said Lt. Col. Todd Livick, community relations chief with the Office, Chief of Public Affairs, Community Relations and Outreach Division.

SENDING WISHES SECURELY The Army.mil Web team first envisioned "To Our Soldiers" a week after the ground war started in Iraq, said Donnie Steele, Army.mil technical director.

"Department of Defense and all the services were getting calls from the public about how individuals could show support for our troops – a Web-based letter writing capability immediately accessible from link on the Army Homepage just made sense," Steele said.

Less than month after the idea started being discussed, it was a reality.

35,000 HITS EACH MONTH
The site, which has been ac-

months, receives about 35,000 visitors per month. On Oct.1, the 30,000th message was posted to the Web site, addressed to a Soldier with the 4th Infantry Division.

"Perhaps the best part about the site is that it provides the opportunity to thank today's Soldiers in real-time measurements. It enables the general public to reach out to Soldiers and provides them the capability to voice their opinion," Livick said.

The Army community relations team posts several dozen messages per day, from supporters in countries from Iceland to Australia, and from Iraq to Afghanistan. In many cases, the screening staff has attempted to connect friends and family members with deployed loved ones, considering the restriction on posting senders' e-mail and mailing addresses.

Initially, there was some concern about the site being used as a means to lash out at Soldiers or the administration, Steele said. However, there were only about 30 negative messages out of thousands sent the first year, he said, and those were mainly wives venting their frustration at their Soldiers being deployed.

Site online for 18 months The site went live in April 2003 to meet a demand for ways to support Soldiers, according to

cepting well wishes for 18 an officer who was involved in months, receives about 35,000 the inception. was deployed, wrote a tribute and submitted "A Letter from wisitors per month. On Oct.1, "There were several reasons Mom" to the site. The commu-

rhere were several reasons we wanted to have this site, but primarily we were overwhelmed with the requests from the hundreds and thousands of calls we received just prior to and after the start of the ground war in Iraq," said Lt. Col. Dan Williams, who was the community relations chief at the time.

Several months after overseeing the site's implementation, Williams was able to see and use the site himself, as a deployed Soldier on the receiving end of these messages. He was "pleasantly surprised" at the amount of Internet access when he reached Iraq in December 2003. PATRIOTIC MESSAGES REACH

"Overall, the tone of the messages being posted have been overwhelmingly supportive of the Soldiers' role in the Global

War on Terrorism," Livick said.

Some messages have even

touched off their own campaigns of patriotism. Earlier this year, Tammi Ketteman of Ohio, whose son

nity relations staff turned the composition over to the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus, whose arrangers set the letter to music and performed a dramatic reading at a concert near Ketteman's hometown.

Another letter writer was also

Another letter writer was also invited to a concert on the Field Band's upcoming concert tour through the southern United

States.

"The Soldiers appreciate the notes and words of encouragement. They read them. I will also add that this is not just for Americans. Many times I have read the entry and am delighted to see the sender is from Germany, France, Belgium, Italy, and other parts of the world. Overwhelmingly these notes are messages of support, appreciation, and encouragement," Williams wrote.

Those wishing to express their support for Soldiers deployed around the world may go to www.army.mil/tooursoldiers/ and submit a message.





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Photo by Marla Greene

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Breast cancer

From page 4

The Walter Reed research is the first experimental work Darbre said she knows of, "that really suggests that there is something hitting a particular part of the breast, which causes genomic instability in that region. The outer region of the breast is where these chemicals are being applied in quite large quantities."

"We're looking at patients' breast tissues and trying to correlate actual chemical concentrations to include parabens, aluminum and perhaps some others," Darbre explained.

The collaborative research team is examining the relationship between chemicals and genomic changes, which are occurring at various parts of the breast tissue and to "see if we can develop a oneto-one relationship," she

hypothesis for quite some time that chemicals in underarm cosmetics may be involved in causing breast cancer," Darbre said. "For me, the main underlying support came from the fact that there were too many breast tumors in the upper outer quadrant of the breast. In the UK we have something around 50 to 55 percent of tumors that are in the upper outer quadrant of the breast."

"Now with this collaboration, we know that these chemicals do accumulate within the breast but it's been circumstantial between levels of these chemicals either by environmental pollutants or application of cosmetics and actual changes in the DNA," said Dr. Darryl Ellsworth, the project's lead researcher at Winber Research Institute.

"If we could establish that "I've been working on the link, it would provide direct

evidence that these chemicals actually can cause genomic changes and it's a stronger likelihood that they may be associated with development of cancer," Ellsworth added.

"We're sort of in the initial execution stage, because we had to change or modify the way that we acquire the samples," Shriver said. "We've just begun that, and Dr. Jeffrey Hooke, [the project's lead pathologist,] has a number of samples that are ready to go. We're beyond planning and into early execution, but we have no results as of yet."

"The specimens that we're dealing with here are actual mastectomy specimens where you have the whole breast," Hooke explained.

"In those specimens we can collect tissue from each of the different quadrants of the breast," he said. "For this particular project I'm collect-

cancers, such as colon or breast

cancer, to catch the disease early

and possibly increase the survival

"There is no way to do that

rate, said Atkins.

for the lungs."

ing samples in duplicate; one set of samples goes up to Windber for the genomic studies and the other set of samples, from each of the quadrants, will go to Dr. Darbre for her studies."

"If we could actually get to the root cause of cancer if we could actually prove that a particular chemical caused that cancer – then one could start using profiling, either by genomic or proteomic means, to try and identify what the early changes are and then (what) the later changes are," Darbre said. She added that improved treatment would logically follow, along with an understanding of how to stop the cancer.

"No matter what the result is, it's going to be interesting," Shriver said.

(Dukes is a staff writer for the Stripe newspaper at Walter

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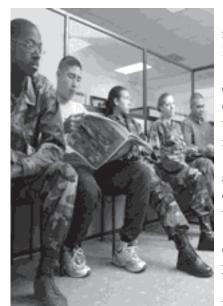
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All in the family

Retired Maj. Bill Evans (right) re-enlists his son Petty Officer 1st Class Chet Evans Oct. 1 at Coast Guard Station Umpqua River in Reedsport, Ore. Evans is a Harlem High School graduate and pilots search and rescue boats for the Coast Guard. His father retired from the Directorate of Combat Developments here in December 2003; prior to that serving in the Signal branch.

Lung cancer

From page 4

Patient tolerance is also a key factor in the surgical treatment of cancer, said Atkins.

If the patient can not survive with one lung, or part of a lung being removed to eliminate the cancer, then there is not point in performing the surgery, he said.

The problem is that many patients have other lung diseases (emphysema or chronic bronchitis) that may complicate the situation, Atkins said.

Unfortunately the survival rate for cancer is 70 percent, said Atkins, as compared to other types of cancer.

"There have been increases in survival in every major cancer," said Atkins. "But lung cancer has had very little sig-

nificant change overall." Radiation is another treatment for lung cancer but may affect normal lung tissue and

therefore affect lung function, so it depends on the individual patient and how they will respond to the treatment, just as

with surgery. Sometimes chemotherapy and radiation therapies are used on patients who can not tolerate surgery, said Atkins.

For patients who will not survive their battle with cancer, measures are taken to make the patient as comfortable as possible, he said.

Atkins wants to make it clear that lung cancer is not a deadly disease, because it is a preventable and treatable disease.

He suggests individuals, both men and women, get yearly routine evaluations. He added that there is no racial difference either.

Another challenge with lung cancer is there aren't screening procedures such as with other



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Community Events

Farewell dinner

There will be a farewell dinner for Master Sgt. Tonja Deans, Equal Opportunity Office, at 6 p.m. today at the Gordon Club.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling Sgt. 1st Class Wilease Buggs at 791-6079 or 791-4298.

FEHB open season

The Open Season for federal employees to make health benefit changes is Nov. 8 to Dec. 13.

For information, go to http:// www.opm.gov/insure/ health/qa/index.asp.

Fall carnival

New Life Christian Center presents its sixth annual free fall carnival from 3-7 p.m. Oct. 30 at 3336 Wrightsboro

There will be free games, a funtown, prizes, a rock wall, children's inflatable rides and entertainment. Free soft drink, hot dog and snack provided. Call 738-2526 for more information.

Dog show

Molly's "Nutts About Mutts" Dog Show is 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 30, at Harrison-Caver Park in Clearwater, S.C.

Proceeds go to saving the lives of dogs and cats in animal shelters.

Contests include longest tail, best trick, largest and smallest dog, and more.

Prizes awarded in all categories. Admission is \$3 for adults, kids 12 and under free. Contest fees are \$10 per contest, three for \$25 or six

For information call 2nd Lt. Mario Rosario at 791-6449.

Fun run

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Association Fort Gordon Chapter is having its annual 5K run/walk at 9 a.m. **Nov. 6** starting at Hazen Hall.

Oct. 15-21

For information e-mail usaoca@yahoo.com.

Houses wanted

The Officers' Spouses' Club, in conjunction with the Fort Gordon Community, presents "The Fort Gordon Tour of Homes" from 1-4 p.m. Nov.

Volunteers from all housing areas are needed to open their homes for this event.

For information call Gail Fitzpatrick at 651-8933.

Yard sale

The Fort Gordon yard sale, sponsored by the Directorate of Morale Welfare and Recreation, is 8 a.m.-noon Oct. 23.

For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Swain Jr. at 791-

Symposium registration

The U.S. Army Signal Center and the Augusta, Fort Gordon Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications **Electronics Association host** the Signal Regimental Symposium from Nov. 29 to Dec. 3.

The theme is "LandWarNet Networking the Force in the Joint Fight.'

Registration for the Symposium is now being accepted. Online registration is available until Nov. 19.

This year there is no charge or badge requirement for local registrants; however those planning to attend sessions during the Symposium must register on the Fort Gordon webpage at www.gordon.army.mil/ symposium/2004.

Local registrants may pay the full registration fee and receive a badge for full Symposium access.

Contractors working on Fort Gordon who plan to attend the Symposium workshops general sessions and exhibit hall grand opening must pay

or 791-4389 for assistance the \$75 registration fee by Nov. 8 or \$100 after Nov. 8. with application packages.

All those who pay and register online will receive their badges in the mail.

Special events not included in the registration are:

AFCEA/AUSA/SCRA Luncheon – \$15

AFCEA Gala Dinner - \$30 AUSA Golf Tournament -

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening (included in the registration fee) - \$15.

For information, call 2nd Lt. Steve Kaiser, Capt. Jonathan Stamberg or Sgt. Maj. Derrick Taylor at 791-7800/

CIA jobs

The Central Intelligence Agency is hiring separating and retiring servicemembers for jobs in the Washington

Applications will be acwww.cia.gov until Nov. 1. Interviews will be held Nov. 30 at Bolling AFB.

For information contact the ACAP Center at 791-7333.

Red to Green

Kendrick Memorial Blood Center and the Fort Gordon Federal Credit Union are again teaming up this year for the fifth annual Red to Green campaign.

For each blood donation at a Red to Green drive, FGCU will donate \$5 to Christmas

Signal Towers is hosting a Red to Green drive from 5:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday in the basement. For other dates, call KMBC at 787-

Family fun day

Mistletoe State Park is having a Family Fall Fest from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 23

Activities include live bands, a hayride, pumpkin scavenger hunt, roasting marshmallows, apple bobbing, storyteller and a night hike.

Activities are free to registered guests and \$5 per caroad for daily park visitors. For information call 541-0321.

Actors wanted

Actors, stage managers and technicians are wanted for the upcoming Army Theatre Touring Company comedy production.

Rehearsals start Nov. 8 and the tour ends in February.

Applicants must have a minimum of 90 days time in service remaining after Feb. 28, and must be fully deployable worldwide with no deployment restrictions.

Interested personnel should contact Steve Walpert, Fort Gordon entertainment director at walperts@gordon.army.mil www.fortgordon. com/ bravo.htm. CYS meeting

received at CFSC by Friday

For information go to http://

All packets must be

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Youth Services Building.

For information, go to www.gordon.army.mil/

Fundraiser

The Sergeants Major Association is having a fundraiser from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at the commis-

The group will be bagging groceries to raise money for its scholarship fund, and to assist enlisted Soldiers and their families in need of financial support.

For information, call 791-6635.

Family child care homes off post

The Fort Gordon Family Child Care Program is currently seeking qualified active duty and retired military spouses to provide off post child care.

For more information contact the FCC office at 791-3993 or 791-4440.

Girl Scout news

Girl Scout troops are organizing now in the CSRA for girls 5-11 and STUDIO 2B groups are organizing for girls

For membership information, call Girl Scouts, Central Savannah River Council at 774-0505 or (800) 997-2472.

If you are 18 or older and would like to volunteer, call





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Troopers instruct Iraqi horse handlers

Staff Sgt. Susan German Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Trading computers and badges for saddles and spurs has provided a welcome break for troopers of the 1st Cavalry Division's Horse Cavalry Detachment working with Saddam Hussein's former horses at the Baghdad Zoo.

After months of desk duty guarding the division main headquarters building, the Soldiers recently had the opportunity to get back in the saddle, while also educating some Iraqi horse handlers about care and training techniques.

Before their deployment to Iraq, detachment Soldiers spent their time performing at parades, rodeos and fairs throughout the United States. Daily duties included maintaining their herd of horses and mules, and equipment required for their performances. Some of the Soldiers are also trained saddle makers, farriers (horse shoe tradesmen), boot makers and veterinarian technicians.

Staff Sgt. Robert Bussell, Headquarters deputy commandant, 1st Cavalry Division, is the platoon sergeant and saddle maker for the detachment back at Fort Hood. Experience gained while growing up around horses on his grandparents' farm in eastern Texas coupled with his time at Fort Hood lends credence to the advice he passes on to the Iraqi veterinarians and caretakers. Because the horses belong to the state, it's up to the Iraqis to make the decisions on their care and handling, Bussell said.

"There's a lack of knowledge on some of the modern equine skills, such as medications, training techniques and doctrine that can be used for the animals," Bussell said.

"We're trying to get them as much information as we can to make a better future for the animals and the people here," he

At one time the horses numbered nearly 100, but traumatized by war, their numbers have dwindled. The remaining horses were gathered up after the war was over, according to Bussell, and 19 now reside at the zoo.

Veterinarian Wasseem Wali has worked at the zoo for a year and with the Americans for the past six or seven months. Although his specialty is caring for the lions which also live at the zoo, he is learning about horses, and even pitches in to assist the stable help when necessary.

The horses were originally stabled at Camp Victory, with subsequent moves to Abu Ghraib, the University of Baghdad and their most recent home, the zoo. While a horse is not your typical zoo animal, Saddam's former horses are biding their time surrounded by more common zoo inhabitants like camels and ostriches, until the time when more appropriate facilities can be built for them.

Long term plans include building a 100-stall stable, an exercise area and an equine education center in Baghdad.

"After these [new stables] are built, the situation will change for the better," Wali said. "I think the future will be good."

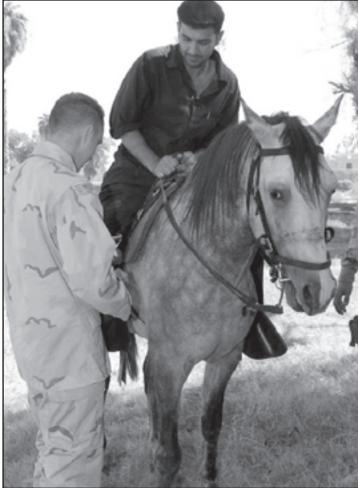
The Iraqis pored over several horse-themed magazines that Bussell brought with him. pointing at pictures of horses and equipment that interested them. Pictures are good when a language barrier impedes communication.

Detachment Soldiers make the trip to the zoo several times a week and are getting to know the horses better. "Because there is a language barrier, it's best sometimes that we just get hands on for ourselves – throw a saddle on them, get on and find out what level they've been put through," Bussell said.

On this particular trip, they brought along a saddle and bridle. Being able to ride the horses was an added bonus, an activity they hadn't enjoyed since being deployed earlier this year," added Bussell.

On a smaller scale, but one that will add to the horses' safety and comfort, detachment Soldiers have built one of several planned pens for two stallions previously tied up to trees in

order to keep them separated. Maad Amer Mohammad, manager of the original Genetic Arab Horses Generating Center,



Sgt. Scott Woodbury, farrier for the 1st Cavalry Division's Horse Cavalry Detachment, adjusts the stirrup straps before veterinarian Wasseem Wali rides 7-year-old stallion Al-Adul.

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over 10 years and wants to see

horses. "By doing that, we can

help other animal educators have

an increase in the number of

characteristics, especially the

Arabian genes]," Mohammad

The Soldiers voiced their

praise for a dappled gray stallion

named Al-Adul, describing him

as beautiful, strong and magnifi-

cent – a good horse for breeding

stallion which carried the

horses," Wali said.

Arabic people."

traditional Arabian characteris-

tics, including a narrow dished

face, to breed for traditional Arab

"The horses are important to

the Iraqi people, especially Arabic

"Their history is with the

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(German is a member of the

The Iraqis preferred a smaller

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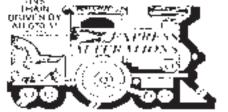
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Potato festival

The 13th Annual Sweet Potato Festival will be held from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday at the Jacksonville Community Park on Huber Clay Road in Langley, S.C. For information, call (803) 593-9260.

Aerobics

Step Aerobic classes are available at Gym 6 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5-6 p.m.

Classes also available Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m.

Nautilus and PT Aerobics classes are available upon request. For more information call 791-6099 or go to www.FortGordon.com.

Permits

The Hunting and Fishing Permit office has moved from Ring Hall to the Tactical Advantage Sportsman's Complex on Carter Road (past the Gordon Lakes Golf Course on the right). Hours for selling permits are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday - Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

OutdoorRecreation

The Army's Clark Hill Recreation Area offers camping, water skiing, fishing, hiking, biking and more.

Located just 25 miles from Fort Gordon, the area is open to all ID card holders. For information, call 541-

Fall carnival

New Life Christian Center present its sixth annual free fall carnival from 3-7 p.m. Oct. 30 at 3336 Wrightsboro Rd.

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All packets must be received at CFSC by Friday. For information go to http://www.fort gordon.com/bravo.htm.

Signal Soldiers wage war against mountain and win

Pfc. Armando Monroig Signal staff

"No way," I said, as I was being volunteered to rappel 'Aussie' style off the 230foot face of the mountain. "I'll pass."

I had already rappelled twice off the rocky face of a north Georgia mountain. But both those times were seated, with your back to the ground. That was hard enough, but there was no way I was going to go down facing the ground.

"That's insane," I thought to myself. Why hike up a perfectly good mountain just to jump off it, I thought to myself.

Cadre members of 447th Signal Battalion, 15th Signal

Brigade, went to Mount Yonah in Cleveland, Ga., to conduct mountaineering training Friday and Saturday.

It was a continuation of training conducted on Fort Gordon by Capt. William Tripp, 447th Signal Battalion chaplain, that began at the Youth Challenge Academy tower.

Tripp, on several occasions, has taken Advanced Individual Training Soldiers to the YCA rappel tower on post to enhance their Soldier skills, with challenges such as rappelling seated and 'Aussie' style, and going down a zip

The training on Mount Yonah will eventually be an extension of that for the IET Soldiers. The cadre members

took a trip to Yonah for familiarization.

Our group of five Soldiers and a civilian left Friday for a three-hour drive, making our way through some of Georgia's most scenic farmland and quaint small

After arriving in Cleveland, we spotted 'the Rock,' as we called it. It was very impressive and intimidating.

We hiked up the mountain to the rock face, rappelled seated and 'Aussie' style, and climbing up the face back to the rappel point, challenging most of my limited rockclimbing skills.

We also climbed the rock face as a team, where all climbers were attached to one another with a safety rope.

This was certainly a team building exercise where one person could only go so far without the other, and communication was key.

Staff Sgt. Eddie Gunnoe, operations sergeant assigned to Company B, 447th Signal Battalion, said he participated in the training exercise to gain experience, assist Tripp and be ready for when they bring AIT Soldiers to Mount Yonah later in the year.

The trip was a confidence building exercise, he said and believes it will be for IET Soldiers as well. Gunnoe said he believes it will help them develop Soldier skills and build morale.

Staff Sgt. Gregory Neufeld, operations sergeant assigned to Headquarters and Company A, 447th Signal Battalion, was there with his family.

"I was here with my family, we did a little family stuff together," he said. "Also. get trained up with Chaplain Tripp."

Neufeld said his wife Jayla, a staff sergeant assigned to recruiting and retention in the South Carolina National Guard, likes to rappel and rock climb, and his son Tate likes climbing rocks, so he brought them along.

"This is outstanding training," said Neufeld. "It's safe, fun and, especially for the privates. it gives them a little taste of hooah, hooah Army stuff."

Tripp said mountain climbing and rappelling, "takes a little bit of guts and it's adventurous

"You learn something about yourself," he said. "It goes well with spiritual fitness and that runs a gamut from faith in things unseen."

Tripp said that when doing this type of training exercise, participants need to have faith in the equipment they are using but it also makes them realize "if (the equipment)

does fail, where will I be." He said the mountaineering training fits well with the Army and the Warrior Ethos

being instilled in Soldiers. Mount Yonah is the mountaineering training

grounds for members of the 5th Ranger Training Battalion out of Camp Frank D. Merrill in Dahlonega, Ga. "I like the reaction of young people who come out.

rappel and mountain climb for the first time," said Tripp. "They're scared to death but they do it anyway."

Tripp said mountain climbing and rappelling is dangerous but proper training of cadre and the constant use of safety equipment that is "backed up and backed up," makes it as safe an experience as possible.

In the past Tripp brought groups of underprivileged children, juvenile delinquents, boy scouts, and any others interested in mountain climbing and rappelling, to Mount Yonah for the experience.

When Tripp returns with the 447th AIT Soldiers, they'll set up camp on the mountain and then hike up the rock face for mountaineering.

"I want to go very slowly, carefully and in a controlled way," said Tripp, adding that safety is his number one concern.

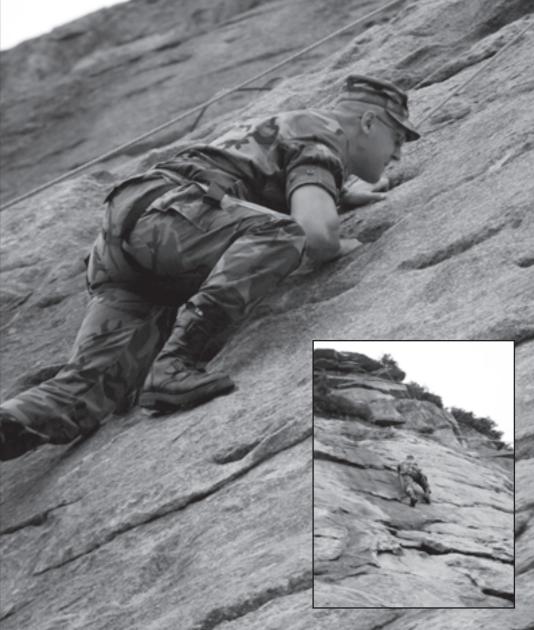
Thinking back, even as I was 'nudged' to go Aussiestyle,' I was scared, but once I looked over the edge and realized there was only one way to get down, I just did

As I was about half way down the mountain face, I stopped and took a look around – taking it all in saying to myself – what a

When I reached the bottom I realized there was only one way out – back up – and hesitantly began to inch my way back up the rock

Again, about halfway up the mountain face, I took a break and looked around to take it all in.

As Tripp said, "This is what it's all about. It was all worth it."



Photos by Pfc. Armando Monroig

(Above) Staff Sgt. Gregory Neufeld, operations sergeant assigned to Headquarters and Company A, 447th Signal Battalion, attempts to climb the steep face of Mount Yonah. rappel 230 feet and then (inset) climb back up to the top. (Right) After pausing to take a glimpse of the view from the top of Mount Yonah, Neufeld then followed the rest of the climbing crew to the rappel point.

Nemechek's Army team wins NASCAR race

By David Ferroni Army News Service

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — A jubilant Joe Nemechek called it a dream weekend after he won the NASCAR Nextel Cup race Sunday at Kansas Speedway.

The U.S. Army driver not only captured his fourth career Cup win, he also took the pole for the 400mile event and won Saturday's Busch Series race in his NEMCO Motorsports entry.

Nemechek's Kansas City sweep concluded with a thrilling finish as he edged a hard-charging Ricky Rudd to the checkered flag by 0.081 seconds.

"There at the end (last lap) I was trying to save gas and here comes Ricky Rudd out of nowhere," said Nemechek, who led the final 37 laps of the 267-lap race. "I was like, 'Holy Moley.' I had to get back on it. He got beside me one time, but I wasn't going to let it happen.' And he didn't.

Nemechek's tenacity and driving skills prevailed as his No. 01 U.S. Army/MB2 Chevrolet took that joyous ride to Victory Lane. "Incredible!," shouted

Nemechek. "This is something that every racer dreams of winning both races (Cup and Busch) and getting the Bud Pole," he said.

"It's a tribute to this entire U.S. Army/USG team. It's like a group of people working together for a common goal to have success with the same virtues that are part of the Army," Nemechek added.

"I am so proud to represent the Army — I have the best sponsor in the garage. I

want to thank all of the troops in the states and overseas. I hope we made them proud. I've always said that they (Soldiers)



U.S. Army driver Joe Nemechek celebrates in Victory Lane after his NASCAR Nextel Cup victory Sunday at Kansas Speedway.

deserve to have their car in Victory Lane. Now we did it. This is really a cool experience for me to represent the Army."

It was a race in which military-sponsored cars took the top three places as Rudd's Air Force team came in second and Greg Biffle in the National Guard's car finished third.

The pivotal point of the race came when Nemecheck's crew chief Ryan Pemberton made a calculated call by not electing to take a splash of fuel on Lap 209.

While the leaders pitted to top off their fuel tanks, Nemechek moved from 12th to 4th and put himself in contention — but with the possibility of running out of gas if the remainder of the race stayed green.

"We were right on the edge to make it the rest of the way," said Pemberton. "We told Joe to do the best he can to save fuel — and he did. But a couple cautions

came out later and that helped us. It was a tough decision, but I knew I had a driver who could do it. This was really a team effort. Not only did the over-thewall guys do a super job on pits stops, but everyone on this team hit their marks. It was truly an Army of One victory.

With the fuel concern and the last lap duel with Rudd, Nemechek was asked in post-race interviews if he felt like he almost let this win get

"Well, there are a lot of would have's, could have's and should have's," explained Nemechek. "But I'm sitting here in the media center with the big trophy. Nobody can take that away from me."

And nobody did as the Banquet 400 trophy was safely packed in the team's transporter for the ride home to the MB2 Motorsports shop in Concord, N.C.

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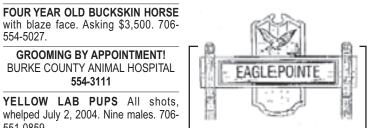
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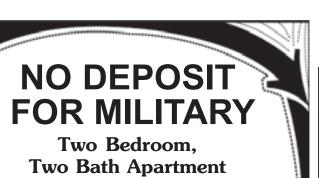




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Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brian Sutton

Sgt. Dustin Peregrin (left) of 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, and Marine Sgt. Christopher Gimello of 4th Civil Affairs Group, log the serial number from a captured AK-47 assault rifle in Ramadi, Iraq, Sept. 30 during Operation Bulldog.

2ID brigade launches 'Operation Bulldog'

Sgt. 1st Class Brian Sutton Army News Service

RAMADI, Iraq – Soldiers who deployed to Iraq from Korea a month ago began a sweeping operation in Ar-Ramadi Sept. 30 to deny anti-coalition forces safe haven, round up suspected anti-coalition leaders, and find weapons caches.

This is the third brigade-level operation in as many weeks, officials said, with the goal of increasing the security for the residents of Ar-Ramadi by keeping enemy forces on the run.

'Not another Fallujah' "We will not abandon Iraqi cities and see them suffer the same fate as Fallujah," said Warrant Officer Christopher Wallitsch, targeting officer for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. "We are determined to maintain our foothold in this city and drive out those who ground continue to work with at Fort Carson, Colo.

choose to disrupt peace and stability here."

The operation closely follows Operation Longhorn, an operation that officials said was successful in routing insurgents and criminal fighters in the city. This operation, named Operation Bulldog, netted 75 anti-coalition fighters, as well as scores of ammunition, weapons systems, maps, and communications equipment.

"This brigade combat team will remain relentless in its pursuit of fighters in this city who are targeting the peaceful residents to instill fear within them," said Wallitsch. "We will not stand for that and we are taking every measure necessary to deny those fighters a safe haven from which to operate."

MARINES, IRAQIS FIGHTING JOINT EFFORT

Iragi and multinational forces to bring peace to Ramadi, officials

"We can't do it alone," said Wallitsch. "It will take a consistent, coordinated effort between all friendly forces in the area to improve the safety and security of Ramadi."

The 2nd Brigade Combat team, although an Army unit, is assigned to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Blue Diamond, Iraq, and is augmented with a Marine infantry battalion.

2ID BRIGADE RESTATIONED The 2nd BCT deployed from the Republic of Korea in August to replace 1st Infantry Division, which was operating in the Ramadi area for one year.

The Army recently announced the 2nd BCT will not return to its home station of Korea after its tour in Iraq is finished in one year. In-The units fighting on the stead, the brigade will be restationed



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Spectrum



Blowing the audience away from the opening act to the final performance, the 2004 Soldier Show cast and crew members sing one of their songs Sunday at Alexander Hall.



The Soldier Show cast energized the audience as they performed Outkast's smash hit, "Hey Yah!"

Pfc. Armando Monroig Signal staff

As the military, especially the Army stays in the forefront of the news due to the Global War on Terror, people are constantly reminded of the sacrifices

servicemembers make everyday. And a select group of Soldiers put that message on display in an energetic, positively charged collection of song and dance called the 2004 United States Army Soldier Show, "The Heart of a Soldier."

The U.S. Army Soldier Show came to Fort Gordon and held performances at Alexander Hall over Columbus Day weekend.

Performances were held Saturday and Sunday with a special performance for Initial Entry Soldiers.

The IET audience was used to film the Soldier Show video that is to be distributed throughout the Army, said Victor Hurtado, director of the Soldier Show and artistic director of Army Entertainment.

Hurtado, a former Soldier, was at Fort Gordon for his IET and said he was happy to be back at Fort Gordon "where the best Soldiers in the Army are."

"This year in particular the concept is 'The Heart of the Soldier," said Hurtado. "This year it's more than talent, I looked for a generosity of spirit."

In addition he said he looked for "a fearlessness," that he "knows is inherent in every Soldier."

He said that if you have Soldiers with that kind of spirit, it doesn't have to be spelled out because the audience can feel it. Communication, Hurtado

said, is used as the driving force of the show. "It draws attention to

separation – people being deployed, artistically," he said. "A mother and a child, husband and a wife, girlfriend, boyfriend, brother and sister – that kind of thing.

The Soldier Show is currently in the home stretch of their sixand-a-half-month, 107-perfor-

mance tour that ends Nov. 15. The show has traveled to Germany, Italy, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and almost every

Army installation. While in Germany on a day off, they visited with hospitalized Soldiers coming from Iraq and Afghanistan.

They have also played the Alamo Dome in Texas, the Tacoma Dome in Washington, and several other larger in-city venues, added Hurtado.

He is amazed by the response received from audiences of the show and said he knows it's because of the Soldiers.

Hurtado said the Soldier Show has a message and it is not lost in the entertainment. He said it is for the Soldier by the Soldier, but that civilian audiences are connecting and understanding who Soldiers are.

"It really humanizes our Soldiers and shows their heart," said Hurtado.

And one of those Soldiers who puts his heart into every performance is Spc. David Clemo, Company A, 35th Signal Brigade, 50th Signal Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C., a cast and crew member of the Army Soldier Show.

Clemo's performances included music from Bon Jovi

and the Beatles to name a few. "It's a good experience. A lot of fun," he said. "It's not something I thought I'd be able to do in the military."

He said it opens a lot of

Soldiers' eyes, who like him, may not have known that there are other avenues in the military. of those who got more than she

"I thought they gave an

awesome performance," she

it especially the hip-hop part. I

thought they worked very well

She added that seeing the

performers work so well and as

a team will motivate her and her

battle-buddies to achieve success

"I want to be there someday,"

she said of her interest in trying

Pfc. Tavoris Rosier, Com-

pany D, 551st Signal Battalion,

motivation not only to Soldiers

also to Soldiers that are here in

church choir and the dancing,'

that are going to be deployed but

"I liked the love songs, the

said the Soldier Show gives

out for the Soldier Show.

together," Layne said.

at a high level.

the United States.

"I really enjoyed every part of

expected.

"On this show you meet a lot of other people, you do some jobs you wouldn't think were in the military," he said.

For example, he met the Army Chorus, organizers of the Army Birthday Ball, and the entertainment side of television.

From his experience, Clemo said the show boosts morale for Soldiers and their family

members, especially overseas. Clemo would encourage people to try out for the Soldier Show because "it is a great experience – you get to see the world for free."

And another cast member who saw the show as a private in 1990 and was motivated to be a part of it and be part of that experience was Staff Sgt. Charles Howard, 17th Signal Battalion out of Kitzingen,

Germany. Howard performed songs by Luther Vandross and Usher in the

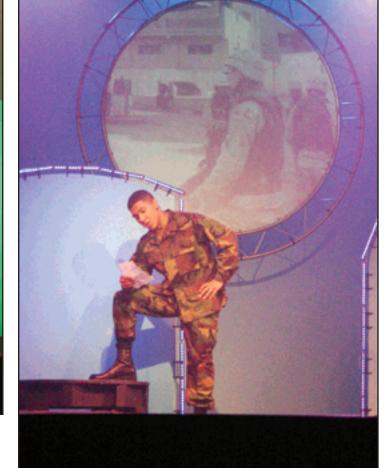
He said being part of the Soldier Show crew is like being part of a family – the cast and crew enjoy camaraderie, have fun together and cry together – adding that they are a great group of Soldiers to work with.

Howard said he thinks the show has a tremendous effect on audiences especially with the Global War on Terrorism and so many Soldiers being deployed.

"A lot of people don't expect what they get after they've seen the show," said Howard, adding that the performers give their all every show.

"It's a professional-quality show," he said.

Pvt. Iris Layne, Company D, 551st Signal Battalion, attended the Soldier Show and was one



Several performances in the show focused on deployment and being away from loved ones - what many Soldiers in today's Army have to contend with.

said Rosier adding that it was a

great show. Hutardo said he appreciates the response from audience members both civilian and military alike adding that it is hard

work. He said it takes a lot of intestinal fortitude because in addition to performing, Soldiers are the ones who set up and tear down the 3,500 pounds of stage and show equipment – they are the crew.

And earning a spot on the cast of the Soldier Show is just as difficult.

About 150 audition tapes were reviewed and 25 finalists were chosen to attend a 10-day audition in Washington, D.C., where they were judged on 17 different criteria.

At the end of the audition, 18 performers were selected for the 2004 Soldier Show.

This year 12 men and six women made up the team of performers.

For those interested in trying out for next year's Soldier Show, e-mail **Soldiershow** (a) CFSC.army.mil or contact Steve Walpert at the Fort Gordon Dinner Theater at 791-4389 or 793-8552.

Deadline for applications is Nov. 31.



Soldiers paid tribute to oldies music and the popular TV show American Bandstand.